

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 6, 2004

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 11, 2004

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 1847**

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**Introduced by Senator Perata**

February 20, 2004

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An act to amend Section 121360.5 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to communicable diseases.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1847, as amended, Perata. Omnibus Tuberculosis Control and Prevention Act.

Existing law establishes the Omnibus Tuberculosis Control and Prevention Act of 2002 which, among other things, until January 1, 2006, permits any local health department to provide for certification, by the local health officer, of tuberculin skin test technicians.

This bill would extend the repeal date of these provisions, until January 1, 2011.

This bill would require ~~the State Department of Health Services to conduct a survey of participating entities and review of its findings, and report each city or county that elects, on or after January 1, 2005, to certify tuberculin skin test technicians to submit a survey and an evaluation of its findings, including a review of the aggregate report, to the California Tuberculosis Controllers Association annually, to and including January 1, 2011.~~

This bill would, until January 1, 2011, require ~~any~~ *a participating* local health officer ~~that~~ *who* determines that an adverse event resulted from improper tuberculin test technician training or performance to

report that information to the *Tuberculosis Control Branch within the State Department of Health Services.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature only to extend  
2 the authorization, as amended by this act, for local health  
3 departments to certify tuberculin skin test technicians to place and  
4 measure tuberculin skin tests.

5 (b) It is not the intent of the Legislature to make tuberculin skin  
6 test technicians responsible for followup or completion of therapy  
7 for tuberculosis patients.

8 SEC. 2. Section 121360.5 of the Health and Safety Code is  
9 amended to read:

10 121360.5. (a) Any city or county health department that  
11 elects to participate in this program shall provide for one-year  
12 certification of tuberculin skin test technicians by local health  
13 officers.

14 (b) For purposes of this section, a “certified tuberculin skin test  
15 technician” is an unlicensed public health tuberculosis worker  
16 employed by, or under contract with, a local public health  
17 department, and who is certified by a local health officer to place  
18 and measure skin tests in the local health department’s jurisdiction.

19 (c) A certified tuberculin skin test technician may perform the  
20 functions for which he or she is certified only if he or she meets all  
21 of the following requirements:

22 (1) The certified tuberculin skin test technician is working  
23 under the direction of the local health officer or the tuberculosis  
24 controller.

25 (2) The certified tuberculin skin test technician is working  
26 under the supervision of a licensed health professional. For  
27 purposes of this section, “supervision” means the licensed health  
28 professional is immediately available for consultation with the  
29 tuberculin skin test technician through telephonic or electronic  
30 contact.

31 (d) A certified tuberculin skin test technician may perform  
32 intradermal injections only for the purpose of placing a tuberculin  
33 skin test and measuring the test result.



1 (e) A certified tuberculin skin test technician may not be  
2 certified to interpret, and may not interpret, the results of a  
3 tuberculin skin test.

4 (f) In order to be certified as a tuberculin skin test technician by  
5 a local health officer, a person shall meet all of the following  
6 requirements, and provide to the local health officer appropriate  
7 documentation establishing that he or she has met those  
8 requirements:

9 (1) The person has a high school diploma, or its equivalent.

10 (2) (A) The person has completed a standardized course  
11 approved by the California Tuberculosis Controllers Association  
12 (CTCA), which shall include at least 24 hours of instruction in all  
13 of the following areas: Didactic instruction on tuberculosis control  
14 principles and instruction on the proper placement and  
15 measurement of tuberculin skin tests, equipment usage, basic  
16 infection control, universal precautions, and appropriate disposal  
17 of sharps, needles, and medical waste, client preparation and  
18 education, safety, communication, professional behavior, and the  
19 importance of confidentiality.

20 (B) A certification of satisfactory completion of this  
21 CTCA-approved course shall be dated and signed by the local  
22 health officer, and shall contain the name and social security  
23 number of the tuberculin skin test technician, and the printed  
24 name, the jurisdiction, and the telephone number of the certifying  
25 local health officer.

26 (3) The person has completed practical instruction including  
27 placing at least 30 successful intradermal tuberculin skin tests,  
28 supervised by a licensed physician or registered nurse at the local  
29 health department, and 30 correct measurements of intradermal  
30 tuberculin skin tests, at least 15 of which are deemed positive by  
31 the licensed physician or registered nurse supervising the practical  
32 instruction. A certification of the satisfactory completion of this  
33 practical instruction shall be dated and signed by the licensed  
34 physician or registered nurse supervising the practical instruction.

35 (g) The certification may be renewed, and the local health  
36 department shall provide a certificate of renewal, if the certificate  
37 holder has completed in-service training, including all of the  
38 following:

39 (1) At least three hours of a CTCA-approved standardized  
40 training course to assure continued competency. This training shall



1 include, but not be limited to, fundamental principles of tuberculin  
2 skin testing.

3 (2) Practical instruction, under the supervision of a licensed  
4 physician or registered nurse at the local health department,  
5 including the successful placement and correct measurement of 10  
6 tuberculin skin tests, at least five of which are deemed positive by  
7 the licensed physician or registered nurse supervising the practical  
8 instruction.

9 (h) The local health officer or the tuberculosis controller may  
10 deny or revoke the certification of a tuberculin skin test technician  
11 if the local health officer or the tuberculosis controller finds that  
12 the technician is not in compliance with this section.

13 ~~(i) The department shall conduct an annual survey of each~~

14 (i) *Each county or city participating in the program under this*  
15 *section using tuberculin skin test technicians and report to the*  
16 *California Tuberculosis Controllers Association, that elects to*  
17 *participate on or after January 1, 2005, shall submit to the CTCA*  
18 *a survey and an evaluation of its findings, including a review of*  
19 *the aggregate report, by July 1, 2006, and by July 1 of each year*  
20 *thereafter to, and including, July 1, 2011. The report shall include*  
21 *the following:*

22 ~~(1) The counties participating in the program.~~

23 ~~(2)~~

24 (1) *The number of persons trained and certified as tuberculin*  
25 *skin test technicians in that city or county.*

26 ~~(3)~~

27 (2) *The estimated number of tuberculin skin tests placed by*  
28 *tuberculin skin test technicians in that city or county.*

29 (j) By July 1, 2008, the ~~department~~ *CTCA* shall submit a  
30 summary of barriers to implementing the tuberculosis technician  
31 program in the state to the ~~California Tuberculosis Controllers~~  
32 ~~Association~~ *department and to the appropriate policy and fiscal*  
33 *committees of the Legislature.*

34 (k) The local health officer of each participating *city or county*  
35 shall report to the ~~department~~ *any Tuberculosis Control Branch*  
36 *within the department any adverse event that he or she determines*  
37 *has resulted from improper tuberculin skin test technician training*  
38 *or performance.*

39 (l) (1) This section, except subdivision (i), shall remain  
40 operative only until January 1, 2011.



1 (2) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1,  
2 2012, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,  
3 that is enacted before January 1, 2012, deletes or extends that date.

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